

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1 - 68 (Canceled)

69. (Currently Amended): A system for providing real-time ratings to users, comprising:

means for collecting real-time ratings information based on the activities of at least one users at user television equipment at a plurality of locations; and

means for displaying the real-time ratings information on the at least one user's television equipment in real time.

70. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for providing an opportunity for defining a time frame for the real-time ratings.

71. (Original): The system defined in claim 70 wherein the means for providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings comprises means for

providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this hour for the real-time ratings.

72. (Original): The system defined in claim 70 wherein the means for providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings comprises means for providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this evening for the real-time ratings.

73. (Original): The system defined in claim 70 wherein the means for providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings comprises means for providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of today for the real-time ratings.

74. (Original): The system defined in claim 70 wherein the means for providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings further comprises means for providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this week for the real-time ratings.

75. (Original): The system defined in claim 70 wherein the means for providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings further comprises means for providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this instant for the real-time ratings.

76. (Currently Amended): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for providing an opportunity for selecting a geographic area for the real-time ratings, wherein selecting a geographic area defines a list of users.

77. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for providing an opportunity for selecting a genre for the real-time ratings.

78. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for providing an opportunity for selecting whether the real-time ratings are for television programs.

79. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for providing an opportunity for selecting whether the real-time ratings are for applications.

80. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for providing an opportunity for selecting whether the real-time ratings are for non-program-guide applications.

81. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for providing an opportunity for selecting whether the real-time ratings are for video games.

82. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the means for displaying the real-time ratings information comprises means for displaying real-time television program ratings.

83. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the means for displaying the real-time ratings information comprises means for displaying real-time video game ratings.

84. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the means for displaying the real-time ratings information comprises means for displaying real-time ratings for a time period of this evening.

85. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the means for displaying the real-time ratings information comprises means for displaying real-time ratings for a time period of this instant.

86. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for allowing each user to select which type of real-time ratings are displayed.

87. (Currently Amended): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the means for collecting the real-time ratings information comprises means for collecting information on whether a muting function is used when certain programs are watched.

88. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the means for collecting the real-time ratings information comprises means for collecting information on whether any portion of the video of a program is blocked as that program is watched.

89. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the real-time ratings information comprises a list of programs, the system further comprising means for selecting one of the programs to purchase.

90. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the real-time ratings information comprises a list of programs, the system further comprising means for selecting one of the programs to set a reminder for that program.

91. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the real-time ratings information comprises a list of programs, the system further comprising means for selecting one of the programs to record.

92. (Currently Amended) A method for providing real-time ratings to users, comprising the steps of:

collecting real-time ratings information based on the activities of at least one users at user television equipment at a plurality of locations; and

displaying the real-time ratings information on the at least one user's television equipment in real time.

93. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of providing an opportunity for defining a time frame for the real-time ratings.

94. (Original): The method defined in claim 93 wherein the step of providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings comprises the step of providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this hour for the real-time ratings.

95. (Original): The method defined in claim 93 wherein the step of providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings comprises the step of

providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this evening for the real-time ratings.

96. (Original): The method defined in claim 93 wherein the step of providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings comprises the step of providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of today for the real-time ratings.

97. (Original): The method defined in claim 93 wherein the step of providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings further comprises the step of providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this week for the real-time ratings.

98. (Original): The method defined in claim 93 wherein the step of providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings further comprises the step of providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this instant for the real-time ratings.

99. (Currently Amended): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of providing an opportunity for selecting a geographic area for the real-time ratings, wherein selecting a geographic area defines a list of users.

100. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of providing an opportunity for selecting a genre for the real-time ratings.

101. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of providing an opportunity for selecting whether the real-time ratings are for television programs.

102. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of providing an opportunity for selecting whether the real-time ratings are for applications.

103. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of providing an opportunity for

selecting whether the real-time ratings are for non-program-guide applications.

104. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of providing an opportunity for selecting whether the real-time ratings are for video games.

105. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the step of displaying the real-time ratings information comprises the step of displaying real-time television program ratings.

106. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the step of displaying the real-time ratings information comprises the step of displaying real-time video game ratings.

107. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the step of displaying the real-time ratings information comprises the step of displaying real-time ratings for a time period of this evening.

108. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the step of displaying the real-time ratings information comprises the step of displaying real-time ratings for a time period of this instant.

109. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of allowing each user to select which type of real-time ratings are displayed.

110. (Currently Amended): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the step of collecting the real-time ratings information comprises the step of collecting information on whether a muting function is used when certain programs are watched.

111. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the step of collecting the real-time ratings information comprises the step of collecting information on whether any portion of the video of a program is blocked as that program is being watched.

112. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the real-time ratings information comprises a list of programs, the method further comprising the step of selecting one of the programs to purchase.

113. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the real-time ratings information comprises a list of programs, the method further comprising the step of selecting one of the programs to set a reminder for that program.

114. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the real-time ratings information comprises a list of programs, the method further comprising the step of selecting one of the programs to record.

115. (Currently Amended): A system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising:

means for displaying program guide display screens on the user television equipment with the interactive television program guide; and

means for receiving at least one user selection
in the interactive television program guide which displays a
program guide display screen;

means for collecting information on which
program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive
television program guide based on the selections received from
the user; and

means for collecting information on the
frequency with which program guide display screens are
displayed.

116. (Currently Amended): A method for using a
system in which an interactive television program guide is
implemented on user television equipment, comprising the steps
of:

displaying program guide display screens on the
user television equipment with the interactive television
program guide; and

receiving at least one user selection in the
interactive television program guide which displays a program
guide display screen;

collecting information on which program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive television program guide based on the selections received from the user;
and

collecting information on the frequency with which program guide display screens are displayed.

117. (Currently Amended): A system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising:

means for providing an opportunity for a user to use select non-program-guide applications for use on the user television equipment; and

means for receiving at least one user selection for a non-program-guide application;

means for collecting information with the interactive television program guide on which non-program guide applications are ~~used~~ selected for use by the user on the user television equipment; and

means for collecting information with the interactive television program guide on how the non-program guide applications are invoked.

118. (Currently Amended): A method for using a system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising the steps of:

providing an opportunity for a user to ~~use~~
select non-program-guide applications for use on the user television equipment; ~~and~~

receiving at least one user selection for a non-program-guide application;

collecting information with the interactive television program guide on which non-program guide applications are ~~used~~ selected for use by the user on the user television equipment; and

collecting information with the interactive television program guide on how the non-program guide applications are invoked.

119. (New): A system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising:

means for displaying program guide display screens on the user television equipment with the interactive television program guide;

means for receiving at least one user selection in the interactive television program guide which displays a program guide display screen;

means for collecting information on which program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive television program guide based on the selections received from the user; and

means for collecting information on the duration that the program guide screens are displayed.

120. (New): A method for using a system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising the steps of:

displaying program guide display screens on the user television equipment with the interactive television program guide;

receiving at least one user selection in the interactive television program guide which displays a program guide display screen;

collecting information on which program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive television program guide based on the selections received from the user; and

collecting information on the duration that the program guide screens are displayed.

121. (New): A system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising:

means for displaying program guide display screens on the user television equipment with the interactive television program guide;

means for receiving at least one user selection in the interactive television program guide which displays a program guide display screen;

means for collecting information on which program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive television program guide based on the selections received from the user; and

means for collecting information on whether the user interacts with the program guide.

122. (New): A method for using a system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising the steps of:

displaying program guide display screens on the user television equipment with the interactive television program guide;

receiving at least one user selection in the interactive television program guide which displays a program guide display screen;

collecting information on which program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive television

program guide based on the selections received from the user;
and

collecting information on whether the user
interacts with the program guide.

123. (New): A system in which an interactive
television program guide is implemented on user television
equipment, comprising:

means for displaying program guide display
screens on the user television equipment with the interactive
television program guide;

means for receiving at least one user selection
in the interactive television program guide which displays a
program guide display screen;

means for collecting information on which
program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive
television program guide based on the selections received from
the user; and

means for collecting information on whether the
mute function is used.

124. (New): A method for using a system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising the steps of:

displaying program guide display screens on the user television equipment with the interactive television program guide;

receiving at least one user selection in the interactive television program guide which displays a program guide display screen;

collecting information on which program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive television program guide based on the selections received from the user; and

collecting information on whether the mute function is used.

125. (New): A system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising:

means for displaying program guide display screens on the user television equipment with the interactive television program guide;

means for receiving at least one user selection in the interactive television program guide which displays a program guide display screen;

means for collecting information on which program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive television program guide based on the selections received from the user; and

means for collecting information on whether screen overlays are present.

126. (New): A method for using a system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising the steps of:

displaying program guide display screens on the user television equipment with the interactive television program guide;

receiving at least one user selection in the interactive television program guide which displays a program guide display screen;

collecting information on which program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive television

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program guide based on the selections received from the user;

and

collecting information on whether screen
overlays are present.